

COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION
JOINT STAFF REPORT
SUMMER FACT SHEET NO. 13
July 21, 2011

Fisheries under consideration:	Treaty Indian commercial salmon
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STOCK STATUS

Upper Columbia Summer Chinook

- Upper Columbia summer Chinook are destined for areas above Priest Rapids Dam. Chinook passing Bonneville Dam during June 16 through July 31 are considered upper Columbia summer Chinook. These Chinook are not listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the population is considered healthy.
- TAC met on July 18 and reviewed the prediction of the Upper Columbia Summer Chinook run size at the river mouth and kept the prediction at 80,000.
- As of July 20, 61,973 adult upper Columbia summer Chinook have passed Bonneville Dam.

Sockeye

- On July 18, TAC updated the sockeye forecast to 186,800 fish to the Columbia River mouth
- Bonneville Dam passage through July 20 totals 183,422 sockeye.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Management Agreements

- The 2008-2017 *U.S. v Oregon* Management Agreement (MA) provides specific fishery management guidelines for treaty and non-treaty summer season fisheries.
- The harvest rate schedule for Chinook was shown in Summer Fact Sheet #1.
- The impact limit on the 2011 Columbia River return ESA listed sockeye is 7% for treaty Indian fisheries.

2011 Treaty Indian Fisheries

- Based on the updated forecasts and corresponding ESA impact limits, treaty Indian fisheries are allocated a total of 22,974 adult summer Chinook and 13,076 sockeye.
- Yakama tributary fisheries are also ongoing, which may include the Little White Salmon River (Drano Lake), and the White Salmon, Klickitat, and Icicle rivers. These fisheries do not require Compact action.
- The preliminary harvest in the first five commercial gillnet openings is shown in the table below. An updated catch projection for this week's fishery, based on the last five openers, is shown also.

2011 Summer Season Treaty Indian Mainstem Harvest

Fishery	Stat week	Days	Nets	Chinook Adults	Steelhead	Sockeye	Sturgeon	Walleye
6/16-6/18	25	2.5	322	4,230	139	602	44	28
6/20-6/23	26	3.5	350	3,390	169	1,324	63	27
6/27-6/30	27	3.5	364	3,335	245	4,515	229	15
7/5-7/8	28	3.5	358	3,024	429	4,194	57	20
7/11-7/15	29	4.5	295	2,814	589	1,019	56	2
Total				16,793	1,571	11,654	449	92
Total allowed Harvest				22,974		13,076		
Remaining				6,181		1,422		
7/18-21 Predicted	30	3.5	207	2,500		800		
Remaining				3,681		622		

Platform and hook and line harvest is included in the weekly gillnet catch estimates.

- Sockeye catches remain very close to the 7% harvest rate limit. Therefore the tribes will maintain the minimum mesh size restriction and prohibition of commercial sales of sockeye in next week's gillnet fishery.
- The tribes propose a 5.5 day fishery in an effort to continue access to the remaining harvestable summer Chinook.
- The tribes project a harvest of approximately 2,000-2,500 Chinook and 250-400 sockeye in the proposed fishery. The tribes expect reduced effort compared to this week's fishery (approximately 150-175 nets). This would bring the total tribal Chinook harvest to approximately 21,800 Chinook and approximately 12,800 sockeye.

FISHERY RECOMMENDATIONS

<i>2011 Treaty Indian Summer Chinook Commercial Fishery</i>		
Season	6 AM Monday July 25 to 6 PM Saturday July 30, 2011	(5.5 days)
Area	Zones 6	
Sanctuaries:	Standard river mouth and dam sanctuaries apply. No Spring Creek hatchery sanctuary is necessary this time of year.	
Gear:	Gill nets with a minimum stretched mesh size of 7.25 inches.	
Allowable Sales:	Chinook, coho, steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sockeye may not be sold, but may be retained for subsistence. Sturgeon may not be sold, but sturgeon from 43 to 54 inches fork length in The Dalles and John Day Pools and from 38 to 54 inches fork length in the Bonneville Pool may be kept for subsistence purposes.	
	Sales of fish caught during open period gillnet periods are allowed after the end of the open period, as long as the fish were landed during the open period.	
Additional:	24-hour quick reporting rule is in effect for Washington buyers.	

- The tribes will monitor catch and effort to ensure the fishery remains within management limits.

Future Meetings

- The first fall season Compact is scheduled for 10 AM July 28 at the Holiday Inn (204 West Marine Dr.) in Astoria, Oregon.